PUBLIC NOTICE

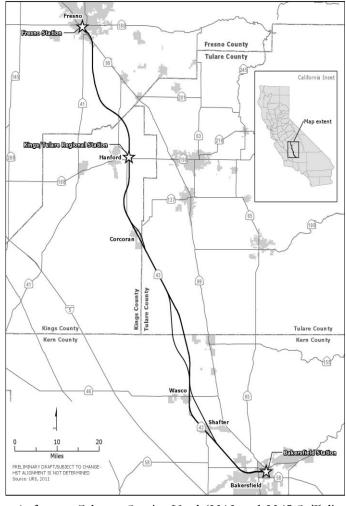
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF PUBLC HEARINGS FRESNO TO BAKERSFIELD SECTION HIGH-SPEED TRAIN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIR/EIS)

PROPOSED PROJECT AND LOCATION: A Statewide Program EIR/EIS (tier 1) was certified in November 2005 as the first phase of a tiered environmental review process for the proposed California high-speed train system (HST system) planned to provide a reliable high-speed electric-powered train system that links the major metropolitan areas of the state and that delivers predictable and consistent travel times. A further objective is to provide an interface with commercial airports,

mass transit, and the highway network and to relieve capacity constraints of the existing transportation system as increases in intercity travel demand in California occur, in a manner sensitive to and protective of California's unique natural resources. The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority), with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), has prepared a Draft EIR/EIS that further examines the Fresno to Bakersfield Section at the project level (tier 2), within Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern counties. The project examined is construction and operation of a grade-separated, dedicated double-track, electric powered, passenger, steel-wheel-on-steel-rail, high-speed railroad between Fresno and Bakersfield, including stations in downtown Fresno and Bakersfield and a possible Kings/Tulare Regional Station east of Hanford, and a potential heavy maintenance facility. This Draft EIR/EIS describes a no-project alternative and HST alternatives (including alignment, station, and heavy maintenance facilities alternatives) and identifies potential impacts, benefits, and mitigation measures.

ANTICIPATED IMPACTS: Significant environmental effects are anticipated in the following areas: transportation; air quality; noise and vibration; electromagnetic fields; biological resources and wetlands; hazardous materials and wastes; safety and security; communities; agricultural lands; parks, recreation, and open space; aesthetics and visual resources; and cultural and paleontological resources.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES: The project would cross several sites on hazardous waste lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code. Those sites are: Lamoure's Cleaners (1304 G Street, Fresno); VOPAK USA, Inc. (1152 G Street, Fresno); Greyhound Bus Deport (1033 Broad-



way, Fresno); Premier Valley Foods, Inc. (1625 Tulare Street, Fresno); former Caltrans Service Yard (2312 and 2365 S. Tulip, Fresno); United States Cold Storage (2539 E. Woodward, Fresno); Arctic Glacier-Jack Frost Ice (2003 E. Cherry, Fresno); Rumbley Property (2160-2180 S. Van Ness, Fresno); Chris Sorensen Facility (2205 S. Van Ness, Fresno); vacant lots (2368 and 2376 S. Grace, Fresno); California Diesel Report and Anderson Clayton (2396 S. Railroad, Fresno); former Burlington Northern Santa Fe Ice House (3090 E. Church, Fresno); FMC Corporation (2501 S. Sunland, Fresno); Weir Floway Inc. (2494 S. Railroad, Fresno); former Valley Foundary and Machine Works (2510 S. East Ave., Fresno); south Fresno regional groundwater plume (north of Church Ave., east of Golden State Blvd., south of Woodward Ave., and west of Gearhart St.); Swift Transportation (2797 S. Orange, Fresno); Professional Asbestos Removal Corp. (2706 S. Railroad, Fresno); CL Bryant (3220 S. Parkway, Fresno); Cedar Avenue Recycling and Transfer Station (3457 S. Cedar, Fresno); Wilbur-Ellis Company (4106 S. Cedar, Fresno); Bowen Engineering and Environmental (4664 S. Cedar, Fresno); Fowler Packing Co. (8570 S. Cedar, Fresno); Vie-Del Company #1 (11903 S. Chestnut, Fresno); Hanford Facility (7480 Hanford-Armona Road, Hanford); Puregro-Corcoran (6991 Nevada Ave., Corcoran); Santa Fe Railroad Property (7th and H Street, Wasco); Brown and Bryant (135 Commercial Dr., Shafter); KVS Transportation, Inc. 3752 Allen Road, Bakersfield); Tosco Corporation Bakersfield Refinery (6500 Refinery Blvd, Bakersfield); and Kern Rock Company (529 Dolores Street, Bakersfield).

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The Draft EIR/EIS is being made available to the public in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act for a 45-day comment period. During the comment period, written comments may be submitted via mail to "Fresno to Bakersfield Draft EIR/EIS Comment", 770 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814; through the Authority's website [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov]; or via email to Fresno_Bakersfield@hsr.ca.gov with the subject line "Draft EIR/EIS Comment". The comment period is from August 15 to September 28, 2011. Comments must be received electronically, or postmarked, on or before September 28, 2011.

The information in the Draft EIR/EIS and comments received will be considered by the Authority and FRA when they identify the preferred HST alignment alternative and station location options for the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the proposed California HST system. The Authority and FRA will prepare a Final EIR/EIS, which will include responses to comments received and a description of the preferred alignment and station location options.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: The Authority and FRA invite you to attend the public hearings that have been scheduled to receive comments from the public and public agencies on the Draft EIR/EIS and the HST alternatives it discusses. Each hearing is scheduled from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The hearings will include a short open house portion and presentation regarding the Draft EIR/EIS comment process, then a public hearing during which members of the public can formally submit an oral comment on the Draft EIR/EIS. Written comments also may be submitted at the hearing. Spanish translations will be provided; if you have other special needs such as for the hearing impaired, please call Ms. Rebecca Nicholas at (916) 679-2341 in advance of the meetings. All public hearings will be wheelchair accessible. Below is a list of hearing dates and locations:

- Fresno: September 20, 2011 Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA 93721
- Hanford: September 21, 2011 Civic Auditorium, 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230
- Bakersfield: September 22, 2011 Beale Memorial Library, 701 Truxton Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301

Please call the Authority, (916) 324-1541, or check the Authority Web Site [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov], for more information, including up to date information on planned hearings.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT EIR/EIS: Visit the Authority website [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov] or the FRA website [wwww.fra.dot.gov] where you may: view and download the Draft EIR/EIS. The Authority Web Site also contains technical reports underlying the Draft EIR/EIS. You may also request a CD-ROM of the Draft EIR/EIS by calling (916) 679-2341. Printed copies of the Draft EIR/EIS have been placed in the public libraries in the following cities: Fresno (2420 Mariposa Street), Clovis (1155 Fifth Street), Laton (6313 DeWoody Street), Hanford (401 N. Douty Street), Lemoore (457 C Street), Visalia (200 West Oak Avenue), Tulare (475 North M Street), Corcoran (1001 Chittenden Avenue), Delano (925 10th Avenue), Shafter (236 James Street), Wasco (1102 7th Street), and Bakersfield (701 Truxtun Avenue). A printed copy of the Draft EIR/EIS and underlying technical reports also are available for review during business hours at the Authority's offices at 770 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA.

The Authority does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.
